I WISH YOU WOULD THINK OF ME AS SOMETHING PRECIOUS TOO. LIKE A SEED IN YOUR HEART.
I WISH YOU WOULD KEEP CALLING ME BECAUSE YOU THINK OF ME AS PRECIOUS.

WHAT' RE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
I...

I THINK YOU'RE REALLY PRECIOUS TO ME, JANE.

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TWO DOING?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Winter Woods

WHATEVER. ANYWAY,
ISN'T IT TIME FOR US TO START TELLING YOU THE REST OF OUR STORY? I SUDDENLY WANT TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

SO SET EVERYTHING UP.
GET YOUR TAPE RECORDER OR NOTEBOOK AND LET'S GET STARTED.
THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW, ROY!
WINTER HERE TOOK MY SEED AND PLANTED IT IN HIS CHEST!

BUT THE WOUND IS ALL HEALED NOW!
...WHAT?

HAS THIS HAPPENED BEFORE?
LET ME SEE.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING? HURRY UP AND LIFT YOUR SHIRT!
WAIT A MINUTE. JANE!

THERE'S A WOUND ON MY LEG TOO!
CHIIK
SHINE~
OH!!

...LET'S JUST GET OUR STORY OVER WITH.
WHAT!?

I TOLD YOU, WE'VE GOT MORE URGENT THINGS TO DO RIGHT NOW!
I JUST WANT TO GO HOME!!

DO YOU THINK WE'VE GOT TIME TO JUST SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING HERE?! I SAID LET'S JUST GET IT OVER WITH!!

GO HOME?!
WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?
ROY AND I MADE A PROMISE.
WE SAID THAT WE WOULD GO HOME ONCE WE FINISH TELLING YOU OUR STORY.

HMM
ALRIGHT, ROY. I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.
IT'D BE GREAT IF THE WOUND JUST HEALED UP LIKE THIS, BUT THERE'S A SEED INSIDE HIM.
WHAT IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG AND HE GETS SICK?
I DON'T CARE. HE'LL FEEL BETTER ONCE HE LEAVES HERE AND GETS BACK HOME.

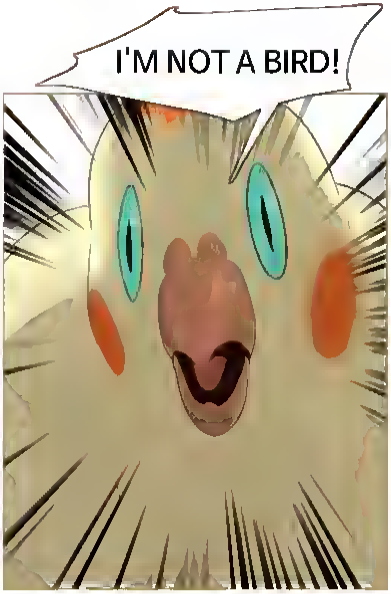
JUST AS YOU AND WINTER MADE A PROMISE, WINTER AND I ALSO MADE ONE.
WE SAID THAT AS LONG AS YOU TELL ME IN ADVANCE, YOU CAN LEAVE ANYTIME.
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO ABRUPT ABOUT THIS!

YOU ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

WELL THEN FILL ME IN!
HOW CAN I TRUST YOU?! I STILL DON'T TRUST YOU ONE BIT.
HOW DO I KNOW YOU WON'T DO SOMETHING TO US? WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH ALREADY.
SERIOUSLY ROY-
UGH
JUST FORGET IT.
WHY AM I ARGUING WITH A BIRD?
I MUST BE LOSING MY MIND TOO.
TAP
TAP
I'M NOT A BIRD.

ANYWAY, EVEN IF YOU HAVE A HISSY FIT AND SAY YOU WANT TO GO, I CAN'T LET YOU LEAVE.
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE SURE WINTER'S OKAY FIRST.
I SAID I'M NOT A BIRD.

SARAH SAID SHE'D COME AS SOON AS SHE FINISHES WORK, SO JUST GO HIDE IN A CORNER AND WAIT.


I'M NOT A BIRD!

EUTER

HOW DARE YOU CALL ME A BIRD!?
AGH!
DO YOU EVEN KNOW ME? WHY THE HELL DO YOU TREAT ME LIKE THIS!!?
ROY!
LET GO OF ME!

I SAID I'M NOT A BIRD!

I'M NOT A BIRD. I'M A PERSON. I WAS A PERSON. I HAVE TO BE A PERSON!

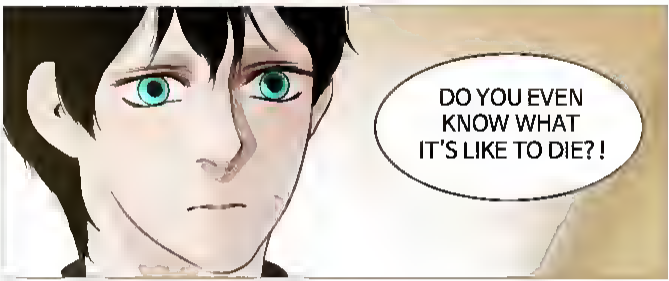
I SHOULD HAVE LIPS INSTEAD OF THIS BEAK, AND SKIN INSTEAD OF FEATHERS ALL OVER MY BODY!

AND I SHOULD'VE HAD ARMS INSTEAD OF WINGS!!

HOW WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE FILLED WITH ALL KINDS OF WORDS AND THOUGHTS BUT TO NOT BE ABLE TO ACT ON THEM!?
I COULD BE SO MUCH GREATER THAN BOTH OF YOU BUT I M NOTHING!

I'M A PERSON ON THE INSIDE, AND YET I'M TREATED LIKE A BEAST.
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ON MY OWN, AND YET I CAN'T DO A THING WITHOUT ANYONE BY MY SIDE!
I CAN'T WIND UP MY OWN DAMN SPRING!

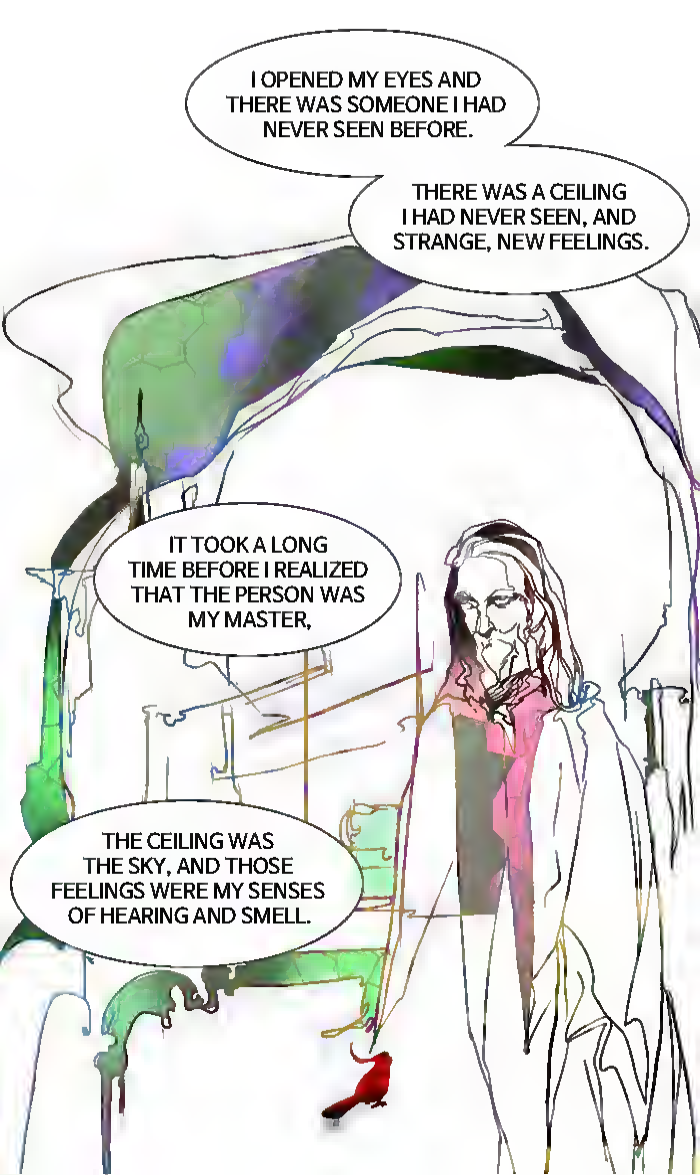
I'M NOT SOME SICK INVALID. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MISERABLE THIS IS?!
I WISH I COULD LIVE ON MY OWN.
BUT I'D DIE IF I DIDN'T HAVE SOMEONE ELSE AROUND.


DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO DIE?!

I'VE LOST ALL OF MY MEMORIES ONCE.

BECAUSE MY MASTER FORGOT TO WIND UP MY SPRING.

I CAN STILL REMEMBER IT VIVIDLY.


I OPENED MY EYES AND THERE WAS SOMEONE I HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
THERE WAS A CEILING I HAD NEVER SEEN, AND STRANGE, NEW FEELINGS.
IT TOOK A LONG TIME BEFORE I REALIZED THAT THE PERSON WAS MY MASTER,
THE CEILING WAS THE SKY, AND THOSE FEELINGS WERE MY SENSES OF HEARING AND SMELL.

IT WAS SCARY,
AND AWFUL, HAVING TO
RELEARN EVERYTHING.

IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE,

EVERYTHING THAT WAS MINE HAD DISAPPEARED.

BEING NOTHING.
HAVING NOTHING.
TIME GOING ON WITHOUT ANY MEMORIES.
NOT EVEN KNOWING IF I EXIST.. OR WHO I AM. THERE'S SIMPLY NO EXISTENCE, PERIOD.

BUT WHAT'S EVEN SCARIER IS THAT I HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT EVERY SINGLE DAY.
WHEN I GO TO SLEEP, I NEVER DREAM. THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.
WHEN I OPEN MY EYES, THERE'S JUST MORE TIME THAT'S PASSED...
BUT I HATE THAT BLANK VOID, SO WHENEVER I WAKE UP, I TRY SO HARD TO REMEMBER IF I DREAMT ANYTHING.

SINCE I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND SOME KIND OF PROOF THAT I WAS ALIVE.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW SCARY THAT IS?

IF I WERE TO JUST STAY ASLEEP AND NEVER WAKE UP, THAT WOULD BE THE END.

NO, I WOULD JUST END UP BEING NOTHING, WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING THAT IT HAD ENDED.

I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT I WERE NOTHING.

THAT'S DEATH...

I DON'T WANT TO DIE...

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT'S WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU SAID YOU NEVER HAVE DREAMS.
COME HERE, ROY...

I DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE. IT'S SCARY.
AND I HATE IT WHEN OTHERS LEAVE ME.
I WANT TO BE WITH SOMETHING THAT I CAN STAY WITH FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
BUT EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD WILL LEAVE ME EVENTUALLY.

I'M GOING HOME.
I'M GOING BACK SO I CAN LIVE TOGETHER WITH THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN STAY BY MY SIDE FOREVER.
I JUST WANT TO LIVE IN PEACE, KNOWING THAT I WON'T EVER BE LEFT ALONE.

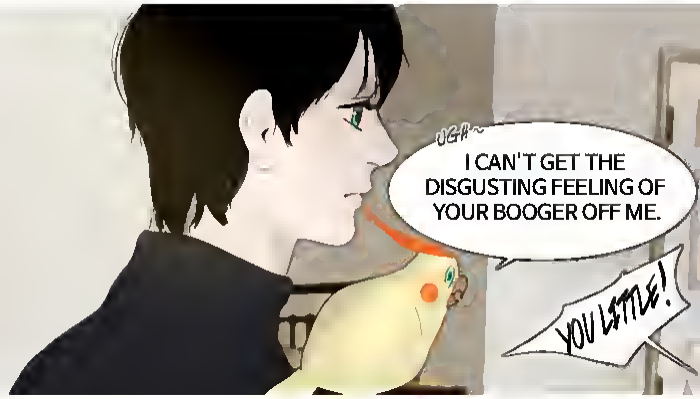
I'M SORRY.
HOW WAS I SUPPOSED
TO KNOW HOW HARD
THINGS WERE FOR YOU...?
PHEW
I HATED MY MASTER.
I HATED HIM FOR MAKING ME
LIKE THIS AND THEN STOPPING
THE EXPERIMENT, SAYING I HAD
BEEN A SUCCESS.
I MAY BE A SUCCESS
IN THEORY, BUT IN REALITY,
I'M A FAILURE.

THAT'S RIGHT.
AS YOU SAID, YOU MAY NOT BE A SUCCESS,
BUT I DON'T THINK THAT MAKES YOU A FAILURE, EITHER.
IF YOU HAD BEEN A PERSON, I BET YOU WOULD'VE BEEN SO HANDSOME. AND SMART, TOO.
IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND SOMEONE SO PERFECT. I ONLY WISH I COULD FIND SOMEONE LIKE THAT!

SO DON'T BE TOO SAD.
BEING IMCOMPLETE MEANS THAT YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO GROW INTO AN INFINITE NUMBER OF THINGS.

THAT'S WHO YOU ARE.

HMPH~
YEAH, YEAH
WHATEVER-
WHYSH~
HEY!!!


UGH~
I CAN'T GET THE DISGUSTING FEELING OF YOUR BOOGER OFF ME.
YOU LITTLE!

Winter Woods

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